



Application No. 09/218,085  
Attorney Docket No.: 98-038

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CUSTOMER NO. 22927

Applicants: Walker et al.  
Application No.: 09/218,085  
Filed: December 22, 1998  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR VENDING PRODUCTS

Attorney Docket No. 98-038

Group Art Unit: 3624  
Examiner: S. Wasylchak

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

#20  
on  
5/4/04

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APR 29 2004  
GROUP 3600

**SUMMARY OF PHONE INTERVIEW AND APPLICATION STATUS CHECK**

In the present application, Applicants filed an Appeal Brief which was received and accorded a mailing date of December 8, 2003.

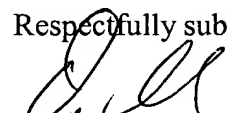
Applicants never received a Docketing Notice for this Appeal Brief. Consequently, Applicants telephoned the responsible Examiner, Examiner Wasylchak, on April 16, 2004, more than four months after the filing of the Appeal Brief. Applicants inquired into the status of the application

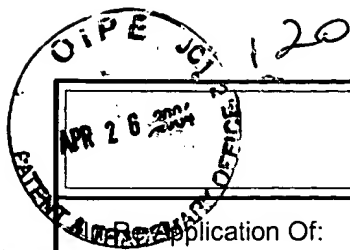
Examiner Wasylchak immediately stated that he remembered the application. He stated that he had taken no action on the application because he "thought that Priceline was going bankrupt". Applicants advised the Examiner that the present application is not assigned to Priceline, and that the present Assignee is not "going bankrupt".

The Examiner responded that he would eventually prepare an Office Action in response to Applicants' Appeal Brief sometime in May, depending on the Examiner's workload.

April 20, 2004  
Date

Respectfully submitted,

  
Dean P. Alderucci  
Attorney for Applicants  
Walker Digital, LLC  
Registration No. 40,484  
(203) 461-7337 /direct  
(203) 461-7300 /fax  
Alderucci@walkerdigital.com



At 3624

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**  
**(General - Patent Pending)**

Docket No.  
98-038

Application Of: JAY S. WALKER et al.

Serial No.  
09/218,085

Filing Date  
December 22, 1998

Examiner  
S. Wasylchak

Group Art Unit  
3624

Title:  
**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR VENDING PRODUCTS**

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is:

Summary of Phone Interview and Application Status Check, 1 pg.;  
Return Receipt Postcard.

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APR 29 2004  
**GROUP 3600**

in the above identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 50-0271 as described below.
- ☐ Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ Credit any overpayment.
- ☒ Charge any additional fee required.

Signature

Dated: April 21, 2004

Dean P. Alderucci  
Attorney for Applicants  
PTO Registration No. 40,484  
Walker Digital, LLC  
203.461.7337/phone  
203.461.7300/fax

CUSTOMER NO. 22927

Dalderucci@walkerdigital.com

cc:

I certify that this document and fee is being deposited  
April 21, 2004 with the U.S. Postal Service as  
first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA  
22313-1450.

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Veronika S. Leliever

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence